

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 2. This sheet, which includes FIG. 2, replaces the original sheet including FIG. 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A corrected drawing sheet is enclosed for FIG. 2, to indicate that FIG. 2 shows a portion of a threshold detector. Appropriate amendment has also been made to the specification. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the drawings is overcome.

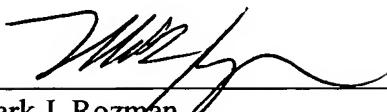
Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,189,589 (Marschall). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection, as amended claim 1 recites both a first current comparator and a second current comparator. Since Marschall nowhere discloses such multiple current comparators, claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom are patentable.

Pending claims 17, 19, 20 and 30-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,240,015 (White). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Claim 17 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 18 indicated to be allowable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 17 and claims 19 and 20 depending therefrom are patentable. As to claim 30, it has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 34. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 30-32 are also patentable. For similar reasons, amended claim 33 and the claims depending therefrom are also allowable.

New claims 39-51 are patentable at least for the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend. New independent claim 52 is patentable as none of the references teach or suggest the claimed absolute value detector, current comparator, and feedback circuit. Accordingly, claims 52-54 are patentable.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX